

PO Box 307 Monteagle, TN 931-924-2286 Volume 22, Issue 12 December 2021

# From the President A Pickleball Update

"Pickleball" – A word that brings a big smile to many of our members, and a big frown to others. On the one hand, pickleball has become enormously popular at the Assembly over the past several years. People from all generations have come to love the game and the camaraderie that goes along with it. Many new friendships have been formed and even those who do not play have enjoyed coming to the courts and watching the action.

On the other hand, this huge success has come with some significant challenges. In particular, neighbors on the west side have found the constant noise from the pickleball paddle striking the ball annoying and disruptive. Several of the committees have made efforts to address these challenges. In July 2020, the Property Committee asked that our Reforestation Committee look into the possibility of plantings around the courts to help with noise abatement. As a result, new plantings were made following the 2020 season in hopes this would help dampen the sound coming from the courts. Windscreens were placed on the fences in an effort to decrease the noise. (continued on page 2)

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### A Note from the Pickleball Task Force

As Overton said above, the Pickleball Task Force will be gathering input from MSSA members in order to make thoughtful and measured recommendations to the Board at the February Meeting.

Every member of the task force welcomes and encourages your suggestions and feedback by way of this survey. Please note that it is due January 15, 2022. Link to Online Survey or email Task Force Chairman, Dianne Lloyd at diannelloyd2@gmail.com for a link and for any questions or further suggestions.



### Pickleball Update

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In addition, prior to the start of the 2021 season, west side neighbors requested that hours of play be limited. Play had never been allowed during quiet hour, Sunday school or

Worship. In response, the Tennis/Pickleball Committee voted to limit play to the hours of 9:00 to at 6:00, except on Fridays and Saturdays when play could extend to 7:00.

We were all hopeful these efforts would help with the noise issue going forward.

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Following the caucus meetings this summer, however, it was clear many felt the problem had not been solved. Consequently, Scott and I met with neighbors from the west side to hear their continuing concerns. Coming out of that meeting, it was decided a presentation would be made to the Board. Prior to our November meeting, the Board received letters from a number of concerned members. At the meeting, members from the west side made a presentation outlining their concerns. Understanding it was important that all interested members have an opportunity to be heard, the Board voted to ask the Property and Tennis/ Pickleball Committees to weigh in on the issues that had been raised and report back to the Board at our February meeting. Property is already looking into additional noise abatement options. In the interim, the Board voted to adopt the recommendation of the west side members and limit play even in the

off season to the hours of 9:00 to 5:30 effective immediately.

In an effort to ensure that the Board receives as much input as possible, I have also appointed a task force composed of Dianne Lloyd (chair), Cyndy Hudgins, Betsy Peebles, Bill Phillips, Ellie

> Billington, Frannie Corzine and Albert Ambrose to solicit comments from the members and make a recommendation to the Board at our February

Meeting; They will be looking at two issues: 1) whether the Assembly should build new pickleball courts, and 2) if the answer is yes, what should happen with the existing courts. They will not be looking at where any new courts should be built. Master Campus Planning is looking at that issue.

I encourage you to contact any member of the task force to make your views known. They need and want your input. You may also of course contact me or any member of the Board. Together I'm confident we can find a solution to this issue that will address the concerns of all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and is looking forward to a joy-filled Christmas.

Overton Thompson

### **QUICK BITES**

ALL golf carts must be registered or re-registered every year. Only licensed drivers are legally allowed to drive carts

Lawn trimmings are collected on Wednesdays.

Dogs must be registered, including proof of rabies vaccination. Pick up after your pets.

The possession or use of alcohol or controlled substances on public grounds, in public places, or at public functions on the Assembly grounds is prohibited and subjects the offender to disciplinary action by the Board of Trustees.

Safety first! Call (931) 607-8615 when the main office is closed for any security questions or concerns.







### ARC PROJECT SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Planning a renovation project? The Architectural Review Committee will accept projects for review and

recommendation to the Board of Trust for approval four times per year. Questions about possible projects, the process, and necessary requirements should be referred to the General Manager. Projects submitted by the following dates will be reviewed and presented at the board meeting following the submission.

January 15 February 28 June 10 July 31 September 30

The ARC is available throughout the year to advise members on their project planning prior to submission of a request. Not sure if you need ARC approval? Check with the General Manager first.



Scheduled garbage pick-ups will be Monday, December 20, and Monday, December 27. No Thursday pick-up during those weeks.

It will return to twice a week beginning January 3, 2022.



The Monteagle Sunday School Assembly was organized by Charter issued by the State of Tennessee on October 4, 1882 for the purpose of: "... the advancement of science, literary attainment, Sunday School interests, and the promotion of the broadest popular culture in the interest of Christianity without regard to sect or denomination."

The Mission of the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly is to be a welcoming community of Christian faith where people gather to engage in spiritual growth and renewal, lifelong inquiry and learning, recreational and cultural enrichment, while being good stewards of our natural resources and our Assembly heritage.

### HOUSING QUESTIONS? ASK RHONDA!

Should you have concerns that your cottage has not rented to your satisfaction during the season or off-season, contact the housing office to discuss your options. If you are willing to consider offering your cottage for 3-day rentals, negotiate or prorate rentals, or if you have questions about your rentals, call Rhonda.

The housing office can also help if you want to rent a golf cart during the season!

The housing number is (931) 924-9000.



Monteagle Sunday School Assembly P.O. Box 307 Monteagle, TN 37356 www.mssa1882.org

Office 931-924-2286 Fax 931-924-2306 Housing (direct) 931-924-9000

General Manager – W. Scott Parrish scott.parrish@mssa1882.org

President – Overton Thompson othompson@bassberry.com

**Key MSSA Contacts** 

Platform Superintendent – Rebecca Nelson rebecca.nelson@mssa1882.org

Director of Housing & Guest Services – Rhonda Atkins rhonda.atkins@mssa1882.org

Office Manager – Becky Hammond

becky.hammond@mssa1882.org

Bookkeeper - Crystal Hill

crystal@mssa1882.org

Facility Superintendent – Rick Duncan rick.duncan@mssa1882.org

## LEASEHOLDS AVAILABLE

#23 Edgeworth Inn \$1,300,00

To arrange a tour or for more information contact: W. Scott Parrish, General Manager scott.parrish@mssa1882.org (931) 924-2286



### **SAFETY FIRST**

The MSSA security team is at your service. If you have any emergency --medical or otherwise-call 911, but our seasoned team is here to help for non-emergency situations. If you have a safety issue or see suspicious activity anywhere on the grounds or at the Point, don't hesitate to call (931) 607-8615 after 5 pm or call the office during business hours. There are no silly concerns--it's better to call and quell your fears than to let something go because you are afraid of a false alarm.

Consider putting the security number by your home phone and/or plugging it into your cell phones.

Kids got cell phones? Plug the security number in those too.

Together we'll keep MSSA the safe haven it is!



# In Our Prayers

Lucas Anderson Spickard, 27, passed away on November 11, 2021. Lucas brought a lighthearted steadiness to those around him. He deeply loved his wife, Hope, who he met as a freshman at Samford University and married on July 7, 2018. Their relationship was a joy and encouragement to all as they held a genuine zest for life — embracing every moment of their time together while also holding earthly life loosely.

Lucas loved his family to the core. He radiated an anchoring, insightful, and playful influence. Lucas tenaciously pursued a master's in accounting at Samford; he earned his CPA and launched his career at PwC. He was an endurance athlete: an excellent tennis player and cyclist. The longer the match, the tougher the climb, the better. And it was with this same character, humor, and strength that he approached each day — with or without leukemia.

Lucas is survived by his wife, Hope Thompson Spickard, parents Margaret and Anderson Spickard, sister Anna Armstrong (Jake), brother William, grandmother Sue Spickard of Nashville, Tenn., in-laws Karen and Alan Thompson of Columbiana, Ala., and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. He is preceded in death by his grandparents Sally and Ted Hartsock of Charlotte, NC.

Memorials can be made to Christ Presbyterian Church or the American Red Cross. Another way to honor Lucas' life is to donate blood or platelets as the generosity of donors helped sustain his life, or you can join the Be The Match registry as a potential bone marrow donor. NOTE: Lucas's grandfather, Andy, died December 8. His obit is on page 6.



Lorena McGarry Frith, 96, of Florence, Ala., passed away November 10, 2021, at Mitchell Hollingsworth Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center. Lorena was born on September 1, 1925, in Florence.

As a child, she lived in Florence, Ala., Demopolis, Ala., and New Orleans before moving to Columbus, Ohio. Lorena graduated Bexley High School in Columbus. After high school, she attended the Ward Belmont School in Nashville, Tenn., and then the Ohio State University in Columbus, until her marriage to Tom Frith, on September 1, 1947 (whom she met at a USO dance!).

While in Nashville, Lorena was a member and elder at Hillwood Presbyterian Church, where she was also a long-time teacher at the Hillwood Playcare & Nursery. She was a member of the Junior League of Nashville and the Pi Beta Phi Fraternity. Lorena had a ready smile and a wry sense of humor. She loved music and cooking. And her greatest joy was her family.

Mrs. Frith was preceded in death by her parents, Tiny and James McGarry; husband, Thomas Poindexter Frith, III; daughter, Anne Frith Gilliam; infant son; and sister, Jane Robbins McGarry Ramey. She is survived by her sons, Thomas P. Frith (Jane) of Florence, Alabama, and James McGarry Frith (Emily) of Nashville, Tennessee; and grandchildren, Frith (Tosha), Jennifer Frith Knapp (Tim), Mac Frith, Davidson Frith, and Joshua Gilliam; and great grandchildren, Evelyn Drew Frith, Hudson Taylor, and Chance Gilliam.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Hillwood Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tennessee, The Martha O'Bryan Center, Nashville, Tennessee, or First Presbyterian Church, Florence, Ala. Dr. William Anderson Spickard, Jr (Andy), 90, passed away on December 8, 2021. Andy was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and brother, a revered physician, and an expert in the treatment of addiction. His deep trust in Jesus and the power of prayer fueled everything he did and gave him the wisdom and strength to impact so many lives. He was born to William Anderson Spickard and Elizabeth Creighton Spickard Schumann on August 17, 1931 in Englewood, NJ.

Andy was a resident of Nashville, TN beginning in 1934. He attended Montgomery Bell Academy and then Vanderbilt University where he prepared to be a physician. Additional training in internal medicine included one year at Johns Hopkins and two years at the National Institute for Infectious Diseases. He was the first Hugh Morgan Chief Resident in general medicine at Vanderbilt. He was in their private practice for five years. Andy was invited to lead the Vanderbilt General Internal Medicine group at the Vanderbilt Medical Clinic. Andy trained in alcohol recovery at the St. Mary's Rehabilitation Center in Minnesota. He then organized the Vanderbilt Institute for the Treatment of Addiction (VITA) where patients with addiction were treated and students and residents were trained in the diagnosis and treatment of addiction disorders. He co-authored with Barbara Thompson, Dying for a Drink - What You and Your Family Should Know about Alcoholism; The Craving Brain – Science, Spirituality, and The Road to Recovery with James B. as an additional coauthor; and Stay with Me, a series of stories of patient encounters that Andy experienced in his medical practice. Andy was selected by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to be the National Program Director of "Fighting Back," a community initiative to reduce the demand

for illegal drugs and alcohol in 14 U.S. cities. In 1999, he became the Director of the Center for Professional Health at Vanderbilt (CPH), and in 2002, Andy was appointed to the Chancellor's Chair in Medicine at Vanderbilt.

Andy deeply loved Sue, his wife of 62 years. They met while at Vanderbilt and rarely left one another's sides. They traveled, played tennis, took up golf, gardened, rode bikes across Europe, and took every opportunity to spend time with their children and grandchildren. Andy loved to fish, whip a one handed backhand down the line, spend his summers with family and friends at the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly, attend his weekly Thursday morning prayer group, worship regularly as a longtime member of First Presbyterian Church, teach and encourage the men at Matthew 25, and listen to Sue play the piano.

He is survived by his wife Susan (Sue) Mieher Spickard, his children Susan Spickard Gray (Ron) and William Anderson Spickard, III (Margaret) of Nashville, and David Billings Spickard (Alice) of Raleigh, NC, sisters Amelia Spickard Watson of Jackson, WY and Elizabeth (Pat) Spickard Wildman of Atlanta, Ga, sister-in-law Sara Mieher Hinds (Howard) of Tupelo, MS, and 10 grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his grandson, Lucas Anderson Spickard.

A memorial service celebrating Andy's life was held Monday, December 13, 2021 at First Presbyterian Church. Donations in the remembrance of Andy can be made to First Presbyterian Church, 4815 Franklin Pike, Nashville TN 37220, Monteagle Sunday School Assembly, PO Box 307 Monteagle, TN 37356, or Matthew 25 (a residential facility for homeless men in need) 625 Benton Ave, Nashville, TN 37204.